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7/6/8

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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-15 CIAE-00 ICA-11 DODE-00
NSC-05 NSAE-00 HA-06 PM-09 PA-01 SP-02 SPRS-02
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R 061533Z JUL 81
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0144

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 4944

Exemption(s):
Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full
☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to
Date ☐ Declassify on ☐ Reason

E.O. 12065: GDS 7/6/87 (FRIEDMAN, T.B.) OR-P
TAGS: SHUM, AR
SUBJECT: (U) REPORTED NUMBERS OF DISAPPEARED

REF: (A) STATE 173555, (B) 80 BUENOS AIRES 9474, (C) BUENOS
AIRES 1834, (D) BUENOS AIRES 1899, (E) BUENOS AIRES 3578

1. [REDACTED] ENTIRE TEXT).
2. AS YET WE ARE UNABLE TO EXPLAIN THE ALLEGATIONS MADE
BY THE MOTHERS OF THE PLAZA DE MAYO WITH RESPECT TO DIS-
APPEARED PERSONS IN 1980 AND 81. CONTRARY TO MRS.
BONAFINI'S STATEMENT, CELS AND THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY TELL
US THAT THEY HAVE NO REPORTS OF DISAPPEARANCES (AS WE
DEFINE THE WORD--SEE BELOW) SINCE AUGUST OF 1980. NOR
HAS THE EMBASSY ITSELF RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION INDICATING
A DISAPPEARANCE SINCE THAT TIME. AS WE HAVE REPORTED,
CELS ASSERTS THAT 28 PERSONS DISAPPEARED IN 1980. OF
THESE, 12 CASES CAN BE CONSIDERED SOLIDLY CONFIRMED (REF B).
3. HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS SOMETIMES INCLUDE AMONG
"DISAPPEARANCES" CASES OF UNACKNOWLEDGED BUT TEMPORARY
DETENTIONS IN WHICH THE PERSON TAKEN HAS REAPPEARED.
USING THAT DEFINITION CELS COUNTS FOUR DISAPPEARANCES
THIS YEAR. THREE OF THESE WERE FREED AFTER INITIALLY
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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UNACKNOWLEDGED DETENTIONS (JORGE MAGNINO, HECTOR PINON
AND ANGEL ROMANO - REFS C, D, AND E) WHILE THE CORPSE

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OF A FORTH, HORACIO ALBERTO CASTRO, TURNED UP BESIDE
A ROAD SEVERAL DAYS AFTER BEING SEIZED BY MEN WHO MAY
HAVE BELONGED TO THE SECURITY FORCES (REF E).

4. THIS EMBASSY HAS CONSISTENTLY DEFINED DISAPPEARANCE
IN THE LITERAL MEANING OF THE WORD. WE REPORT OTHER
ABUSES PERPETRATED BY THE SECURITY FORCES AS WHAT THEY
ARE. TO DO OTHERWISE, IN OUR OPINION, TENDS TO CONFUSE
THE ISSUE THAT ALL HUMAN-RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS HAVE
OSTENSIBLY PUT AT THE TOP OF THEIR ARGENTINE AGENDAS:
ACCOUNTING FOR THE THOUSANDS WHO ARE UNACCOUNTED FOR.
THIS IS NOT TO EXCUSE OTHER WRONGDOING, ONLY TO MAINTAIN
AN IMPORTANT DISTINCTION.

5. WE SHALL ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE FROM THE MOTHERS JUST
HOW IT IS THEY ARRIVED AT THESE FIGURES WHICH ARE SO AT
VARIANCE WITH THOSE SUPPLIED BY CELS AND THE PERMANENT
ASSEMBLY. IN THE MEANTIME WE SUGGEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT
CONSULT WITH THE IAHRC ON MRS. BONAFINI'S STATEMENT
THAT 40 CASES WERE REPORTED TO THAT BODY AS HAVING
OCCURRED IN 1980. IF THE IAHRC WILL PROVIDE A LIST
WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN CHECKING IT AGAINST OUT
RECORDS.
SHLAUDEMAN

[REDACTED]
N VVZCZ

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